



Eagle, 1798

Any of the various large birds of prey of the family *Accipitridae*, including members of the genera *Aquila* and *Haliaeetus*, marked by a powerful hooked bill, long broad wings, and strong, soaring flight.

Builder: William & Abraham Brown, Philadelphia

Length: 77' (deck)

Beam: 20'

Draft: 9'

Displacement: 187 tons

Rig: Brig

Cost: ?

Launched: 1798

Commissioned: 20 August 1798

Decommissioned: N/A

Disposition: Transferred to the U.S. Navy

Complement: 65

Armament: 10 to 14 four and six-pounders

Cutter History:

Eagle was built in 1798 as a larger cutter than her forebears due to their expected use as naval vessels during the Quasi-War with France and other concerns. She was ordered to put to sea on 20 August 1798 under the command of Captain Campbell. She was immediately attached to the Navy in September 1798, where she was to report to a Captain Murray, USN, in command of the 20-gun warship *Montezuma*.

Eagle first served off the South Atlantic coast where, in October of 1798 off the coast of Georgia, she captured the French privateer-schooner *Bon Père*, armed with six guns and a crew of 52. *Bon Père* later became the cutter *Bee*. As of 20 May 1799 she was permanently attached to the Navy when the Secretary of the Navy informed the Secretary of the Treasury that "The Cutter EAGLE is a very proper vessel to retain in the Navy Service and you may, if you please, consider her as belonging to that establishment." Captain Campbell was promoted to "the rank of Master and Commandant in the Navy" on 22 June 1799.

She made four other captures during the Quasi-War and assisted in the capture of four others. She remained in Navy service until she was sold in Baltimore on 17 June 1801.

Sources:

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